

Message Text

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ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 EUR-12 /030 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5999

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 18145

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR (GONZALEZ PARRODI, CARLOS)
SUBJECT: NEW MEXICAN AMBASSADOR TO PORTUGAL

1. ON OCTOBER 22, 1977, GOM NAMED CARLOS GONZALEZ PARRODI AS THE NEW AMBASSADOR TO PORTUGAL. A CAREER DIPLOMAT, GONZALEZ ENTERED THE MEXICAN FOREIGN SERVICE IN 1947 AFTER RECEIVING HIS LAW DEGREE FROM MEXICO'S NATIONAL AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY, THE PRIMARY TRAINING GROUND FOR MEXICAN POLITICIANS. HE WAS POSTED TO PORTUGAL ONCE BEFORE, 1949-1956. PRIOR TO BEING NAMED TO THIS POSITION, GONZALEZ WAS WORKING AT THE MEXICAN FOREIGN SECRETARIAT AS DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION, A POST HE HAD HELD SINCE EARLY 1976.

2. PREVIOUSLY, GONZALEZ HAD BEEN AMBASSADOR TO SWITZERLAND, NAMED BY FORMER PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA. HE ALSO SERVED AS PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE FOREIGN SECRETARY FROM 1966-1975. ABROAD, HE HAS BEEN POSTED TO THE MEXICAN EMBASSIES IN ENGLAND AND ARGENTINA. OTHER POSITIONS WITHIN THE FOREIGN SECRETARIAT HAVE INCLUDED SUBDIRECTOR FOR PRESS AND PUBLICITY AND CHIEF OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN DESKS.

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3. BORN IN MEXICO CITY ON NOVEMBER 3, GONZALEZ IS MARRIED TO THE FORMER AMELIA BOLIVAR. HE IS FLUENT IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH, BUT WILL PROBABLY NEED TO BONE UP ON HIS PORTUGUESE FOR THIS NEW ASSIGNMENT. HE HAS A GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR AND IS SMOOTH AND CHARMING.

4. OVER THE LAST 15 YEARS GONZALEZ HAS COMMENTED TO EMB-

ASSY OFFICERS MANY TIMES THAT HE FEELS HIS CAREER HAS BEEN
SLOWED BY HIS ANTI-COMMUNIST, CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL VIEWS
AND HIS SELF-DESCRIBED "PRO-AMERICAN" ATTITUDE.
THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

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